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SB 163 Testimony
Committee on Ethics Reform and Government Operations
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UW System Administration
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SB 163 requires all contractual services purchased by state executive branch agencies to be performed within the U.S.

Chairperson Risser and members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me to add a few points to Mike Hardiman's comments. I'm Ruth Anderson and I work in Administrative Services at the UW System and I have responsibility for the Procurement operations at the UW institutions.

Mike has outlined the international research at UW Madison. I'd like to add that we have international research, study abroad programs and international faculty collaboration at many of the other UW System institutions. This bill will make it difficult for any of those UW campuses to enter into international service arrangements. For instance:

- The Wisconsin in Scotland Program is sponsored by 5 UW institutions that send 80 students to the Dalkeith House in Scotland each term. Faculty from participating universities and British adjunct faculty teach courses. This bill as written would make it difficult to hire the international faculty to teach these courses.
- UW Milwaukee – hired Mr. Juan Esteban Montes to teach “Chilean Politics and Culture” and to serve as an advisor for participants in the Chile Study Abroad Program. This is a program UW Milwaukee shares with Notre Dame and Marquette University.
- UW Milwaukee – has a subcontract with Provida Y Conservacion SA to perform a census of the Lianas in the rainforest on the Island Colorado in Panama, funded by the National Science Foundation.

UW campuses have research projects located abroad. It makes sense to purchase services locally in the country where the project resides rather than import services from firms located in the United States.

We also need to be cognizant that this bill as written would result in University purchases being awarded based on location of the providing vendor, no longer on cost.

Finally, approximately 99% of the University's total expenditures for goods and services are with vendors with addresses in the United States.

Thank you for your time. We would be happy to answer any questions.